

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 8 are amended as discussed during the personal interview. No new matter is added.

I. Personal Interview

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representative by Examiner Wilson during the interview held April 12, 2005, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

The indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2, 7 and 12, they being allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and to include all of the features of their base claim and any intervening claims, is appreciated. Claims 2, 7 and 12, as well as the remaining pending claims are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed below.

III. Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. As independent claims 1 and 8 are amended in reply to the rejection, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-12 is respectfully requested.

IV. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 3-6 and 8-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,604,989 to Yanagida et al.; and claims 1, 3-6 and 8-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,074,283 to Maeda et al. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

As discussed and agreed during the personal interview, neither Yanagida or Maeda fails to disclose each and every feature recited in the amended claims. For example, neither of the references discloses providing a thin film magnetic head comprising a magnetoresistive device for producing, an inductive electromagnetic transducer for writing, and a heater for generating heat when energized, and polishing a medium-opposing surface of the thin-film magnetic head while energizing the heater, as recited in claim 1, or polishing a medium-opposing surface of the thin-film magnetic heat while energizing the electromagnetic transducer to produce a heat effect, as recited in amended claim 8.

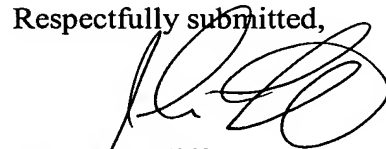
As it was agreed during the personal interview that neither of the applied references disclose each and every feature recited in the rejected claims as amended, withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is respectfully requested.

V. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-12 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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